



COLLIN COUNTY

Office of the County Judge
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McKinney, Texas 75071
www.collincountytx.gov

March 8, 2016

The Honorable Ron Curry
Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 6
Dallas, TX

RE: Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir Permit/Construction

Dear Mr. Curry:

As the County Judge for Collin County, I am writing to express my growing concern over delays in the permitting and construction of the proposed Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir (Reservoir). The initiation of construction of the Reservoir in 2016 is critical to meet our region's future water needs. I am asking that you personally get involved with the appropriate Federal, State, and local officials to achieve this important mission.

Our region is growing rapidly with many new businesses expanding and moving to the North Texas area. Water is key to sustain economic vitality. Conversely, and as you well know, our region has recently experienced one of its most prolonged periods of drought. To continue meeting the water needs of existing and future residents and businesses, we must begin construction of the Reservoir as soon as possible. All studies indicate our area will continue to grow and that water will be absolutely critical to support that growth.

The North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) has done an exceptional job in managing our existing water resources and planning for the future. NTMWD conducted the appropriate research to determine that the Reservoir is needed, submitted its thorough documentation to Federal officials in a timely manner, and continues to respond to agency questions and issues. However, the U.S. EPA has consistently been slow to respond and late in raising issues that were believed to be resolved years ago.

Our region cannot wait any longer. We must begin construction very soon to allow adequate time for completion followed by enough rainfall to fill the Reservoir to an operational level. I would like your personal commitment – as the lead official for the U.S. EPA in our region – to do all within your power to assist us in affirmatively addressing the requirements related to this Reservoir. I will work with my counterparts and NTMWD to keep up our commitment; I only ask that you do the same. Together we can achieve our mutual goals and objectives to serve the interests of the citizens of North Texas who depend on this Reservoir.

I thank you for your prompt attention and working with us.

Sincerely,

Keith Self
County Judge